EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS (E-WARS) DESIGN FOR EARLY DETECTION OF STROKE INCIDENCE

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ABSTRACT

Stroke is a neurological disease whose occurrence increases from year to year and causes disability and death worldwide. Stroke is caused by many factors or multikausal. This was a qualitative study conducted for one year with system design using prototype method. The prototype method began with the identification of needs, mapping, and then inference mechanism. Identification of needs was based on the literature review and discussion. The literature review from 15 sources consisting of journal articles, books and proceedings was done by comparing, contrasting, criticizing, synthesizing and summarizing. Stroke risk factor discussion were carried out with neurologists. The results of the review and literature discussion found identification of factors that cause stroke, which consisted of hypertension, high blood glucose, cholesterol, heart disease, behavioral factors, such as smoking behavior and alcoholism, stress and other causes. The risk factors of stroke were then mapped in the form of mobile application prototype through inference mechanism. The output in this study was early warning systems (E-WARS) prototype for early detection of stroke occurrence. The prototype results were expected to be used in operations into mobile applications that were beneficial to the public, in particular for self-control and personal risk factors for stroke. It was intended for early screening and early detection of the risk of stroke. (FMI 2018;54:136-140)

Keywords: Stroke; early detection; prototype

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INTRODUCTION

Stroke is one of neurological incidences whose morbidity is increasing every year. According to WHO (World Health Organization), 15 million people suffer from stroke every year in the world. Of these, 5 million died and other 5 million are permanently disabled. High blood pressure causes more than 12.7 million strokes worldwide. Deaths caused by stroke in Europe are about 650,000 every year. In developed countries, the incidence of stroke decreases, mostly due to the efforts to lower blood pressure and reduce smoking. However, the overall rate of stroke remains high due to aging population (WHO 2016). Stroke is also still a major cause of death and disability worldwide. Patients with stroke need long-term treatment. However, the cost of treatment is very high. This is coupled with the problem of decreased patient productivity (Fadjar 2014). The number of stroke patients in Indonesia in 2013 based on the diagnosis of health provider was estimated to be 1,236,825 persons (7.0‰), whereas based on the diagnosis of health providers/symptoms was estimated to be 2,137,941 persons (12.1‰) (Pusdatin 2014).
There are several ways to control blood pressure with routine control, blood pressure self-examination at home with electric blood pressure monitor, as well as maintaining the pattern of consumption, controlling stress and exercising regularly. However, along with the rapid development of technology, especially communication technology in Indonesia (Putri 2015), this is an opportunity to create mobile applications that have benefit to the community, especially to control hypertension and reduce the risk of stroke. Before a mobile application is created, firstly, it needs to design a prototype consisting of several stages that begin with the identification of the needs, development, design and utilization of the prototype on the operation.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

This study designed an E-Wars application for early detection of stroke occurrence using prototype method. The research flow is presented in Fig. 2 below.

![Fig. 1. Research flow](image)

Identification of needs in question is the need for E-Wars prototype of stroke in patients with chronic hypertension. The needs include knowledge of the characteristics of patients with the risk of stroke and symptoms of stroke obtained from experts, in this case specialists in neurological disease. Data taken with discussions with the experts were combined with references on stroke risk factors. The references were derived from 15 sources consisting of journal articles, books and proceedings, done by searching for similarities (contrast), creating views (criticize), then comparing (synthesize) and summarizing.

Prototype development was done by mapping the risk factors and stroke symptoms in the patients, then the inference mechanism was made to allow early detection in patients with risk of stroke. The mechanism of inference was made through discussion activities with experts. The design results that have been appropriate or accepted can be used operationally. However, due to limited time research, the operational application of the prototype had not been done.

RESULTS

Literature review showed that stroke risk factors were divided into two, the modifiable and non-modifiable stroke risk factors. The modifiable stroke risk factors were hypertension, blood sugar, cholesterol, heart disease, obesity, smoking, alcohol consumption, stress, physical activity, social factors, education, and marital status (Nastiti 2012). Whereas, the non-modifiable stroke risk were age, sex, race, and family history with stroke (Magistris et al 2013).

A previous study on 137 medical records in Jember Hospital in 2016 revealed that 2.92% of stroke patients also suffered from diabetes mellitus and 48.16% of stroke patients were elderly. Most of the stroke patients were male. In medical record, it was found that most of the stroke patients were Javanese. The analysis of the study showed that the most influential factors of stroke incidence in Jember Hospital were age, sex, race, hypertension and diabetes mellitus.

The results of the discussion with the expert can be concluded that there were 8 risk factors of stroke, ie hypertension, atrial fibrillation, smoking habits, hypercholesterol, diabetes, lack of physical activity, obesity and family history with stroke. The eight factors were then mapped into 3, ie low risk, medium risk and high risk.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk factors</th>
<th>High risk</th>
<th>Medium risk</th>
<th>Low risk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blood pressure</td>
<td>Irregular pulse rate</td>
<td>120-139/80-89</td>
<td>&lt;120/80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atrial fibrillation</td>
<td>Smoker</td>
<td>Occasionally smoker</td>
<td>Not smoker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smoking habit</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>200-239</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cholesterol</td>
<td>Infrequent</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>Occasional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>Overweight</td>
<td>48.16%</td>
<td>Frequent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical activity</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body weight</td>
<td>Not sure</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family history with stroke</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1. Stroke risk factor mapping
It was regarded as high risk if the total score was more than or equal to 3. It was medium risk if the score was between 4-6, and low risk if the score was 6-8. The experts also formulated the efforts to reduce the risk of stroke as follows: having regular blood pressure examination, immediately finding heart problem, stop smoking, checking cholesterol levels, checking blood sugar levels for diabetic patients, routine physical activity, and consuming low-salt diet.

**DISCUSSION**

Use case diagram was used to describe the interaction between a system user (actor) and a case (use case) that was tailored to the specified steps (scenario). Use case describes the needs of the system from the users’ point of view, focusing on computerized systems (automated processes), indicating the system process. E-wars use case for early detection of stroke incidence is described in Fig. 2.

E-Wars use case diagram for early detection of stroke incidence in Fig. 2 shows that there are 2 actors, developer and user. Developer has a role in stroke risk factor and stroke symptom mapping of literature review as results and discussions with experts and making inference into stroke risk criteria. The result grouping were then arranged into a list of questions for the user who will be logged into the algorithm, so the risk criteria will be generated. In order to use the system the user must register and input the data by filling out the questionnaire items presented in the application menu. After filling in the data, the user provides input on stroke risk factors and symptoms by checking the answer according to the condition of the user. Data Flow Diagram (DFD) (Figs. 3 and 4) is a graphical technique used to describe information flow and transformation of data from input to output (Mulyanto 2009).

Data Flow level 1 is depicted in Fig. 4 in which the flow of data from level 0 is more elaborated according to the existing risk factor data. Entity relationship is a model that is often used to design the concept of database applications (Malinowski 2009). The entity relationship model is based on the assumption that the real world consists of a collection of basic objects called entities and relationships between entities. Fig. 5 shows the ERD of E-Wars of stroke incidence.

![Fig. 2. Use case E-Wars diagram for early detection of stroke occurrence.](image)
Clinical decision support system (CDSS) is a computer system designed to take clinical decisions for physicians on their patients. This system aims to reduce medical errors. Factors that correlate to successful implementation of CDSS are: providing automatic alert/reminders as the part of the workflow, advising time and location where the decision is being made, providing actionable recommendations, and computerizing the entire service process. Fig. 6 shows a logical flow chart of E-Wars for early detection of stroke incidence.
CONCLUSION

E-Wars is an early detection system of stroke incidence based on the risk factors derived from literature review and the results of discussions with experts. It contains timely and significant warning information that allows risky individuals, communities and organizations to prepare and act appropriately. This prototype is expected to be operationalized into mobile applications and has a clinical impact to reduce the risk of stroke morbidity and even mortality.

REFERENCES


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